

RULES OF ORDER
OF THE
SENATE OF TEXAS

WITH
STANDING COMMITTEES, JOINT RULES OF THE TWO HOUSES,
A LIST OF THE SENATORS,

AND THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS.

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE.



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JOINT RULES OF THE TWO HOUSES.

DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES.

1. In every case of an amendment in one house, and dissented to in the other, if either house shall request a conference and appoint a committee for that purpose, and the other house shall appoint a committee to confer, such committee shall, at a convenient hour to be agreed on by their chairmen, meet in their conference chamber and state to each other verbally or in writing, as either shall choose, the reasons of their respective houses for and against the amendment, and confer freely thereon.

2. After each house shall have adhered to their disagreement, a bill or resolution is lost.

3. When a bill or resolution, which shall have passed in one house, is rejected in the other, notice thereof is to be given to the house in which the same may have passed.

COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE HOUSES.

4. When a message shall be sent from the Senate to the House of Representatives it shall be announced at the door of the House by the doorkeeper, and shall be respectfully communicated to the Chair by the person by whom it may be sent.

5. The same ceremony shall be observed when a message shall be sent from the House of Representatives to the Senate.

6. Messages shall be sent by such persons as a sense of propriety in each house may determine to be proper, and shall be in writing and signed by the person delivering the message in his official capacity.

7. While bills and resolutions are on their passage between

the two houses they shall be on paper, and under the signature of the Secretary or Clerk of each house respectively.

8. Each house transmits to the other all papers on which any bill or resolution may be founded.

ENROLLING AND SIGNING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS, AND THEIR
PRESENTATION TO THE GOVERNOR.

9. After a bill shall have passed both houses, it shall be duly enrolled on papers by the Enrolling Clerk of the House of Representatives, or of the Senate, as the bill may have originated in the one or the other house, and properly signed by the presiding officer of each house, as required by the Constitution, before it shall be presented to the Governor.

10. When bills are enrolled they may be examined by a joint committee of three from the Senate and three from the House of Representatives, appointed as a standing committee for that purpose, who shall carefully compare the enrollment with the engrossed bills as passed in the houses, and correcting any errors that may be discovered in the enrolled bills, make their report forthwith to the respective houses.

11. After examination and report each bill shall be signed in the respective houses, first by the presiding officer of the house in which it originates, then by the presiding officer of the other, house, in accordance with Article III, Section 38, of the Constitution.

12. After a bill shall have thus been signed in each house it shall be presented to the Governor for his approbation by the Enrolling Committee of the house in which it originated, it being first endorsed on the back of the roll, certifying in which house the same originated, which endorsement shall be signed by the Secretary or Clerk (as the case may be) of the house in which the same did originate, and shall be entered on the journal of such house. The said committee shall report the day of presentation to the Governor, which time shall be carefully entered on the journal of the house in which the bill originated.

13. All orders, resolutions and votes, which are to be presented to the Governor of the State for his approbation, shall also in the same manner be previously enrolled, examined and

signed, and shall be presented in the same manner, and by the same committee, as provided in the case of bills.

ELECTIONS BY JOINT VOTE OF THE TWO HOUSES.

14. In all elections by joint vote of the two houses of the Legislature the Senate will, upon invitation, meet the House in its hall at the hour agreed upon.

The President of the Senate shall take a seat at the right of the Speaker and the Senators shall take seats in front of the Speaker's desk. The Speaker of the House shall preside. The names of the Senators shall then be alphabetically called, after which the names of the Representatives shall be called in like manner, and if a quorum of both houses answer to their names the two houses will proceed with the business for which they have met. The President of the Senate shall first call for nominations by Senators, and the Speaker of the House shall then call for nominations by Representatives. Nominations being made, the names of the Senators shall be called by the Secretary, and their votes recorded by him. The names of the Representatives shall then be called by their Clerk, and their votes recorded by him, and the result shall be handed to and announced by the Speaker. Should a majority be required to elect, and no person receive a majority, the voting shall be repeated until an election is made. After the conclusion of the election for which the two houses have met in joint session, the Senate shall retire to its chamber, and the result of the joint vote shall be entered on the journal of each house.

15. If a quorum of either house should fail to attend a joint session, or absent themselves therefrom without the permission of such house, the members of the house so wanting a quorum, if ten in number, shall have the right to compel the attendance of the absentees, in accordance with its own rules; and after a reasonable time, if a quorum is not obtained, the joint session may be adjourned by the vote of a majority of the members of either house, which votes shall be taken by the presiding officer of either house, on the motion of any one of its members, without debate.

16. If no choice shall have been made on the first ballot or

vote, at any time thereafter the joint session may be adjourned, with or without naming another day for meeting, by the vote of a majority of either house, which vote shall be taken by the presiding officer of either house, on the motion of any one of its members, without delay.*

*These Joint Rules were amended by the Joint Committee on Rules of the two houses February 10, 1887, which, among other things, substituted rules 11 and 12 of these Joint Rules.

AMENDMENT TO JOINT RULES.

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, that rule 6 of the joint rules of the two houses, be so amended as to hereafter read as follows:

“All messages relating to the passage, substitution or amendment of any bill, resolution or other matter in passage between the two houses, shall be sent by such person as a sense of propriety in each house may determine to be proper, and shall be in writing on but one side of separate sheet or sheets of paper, and shall be properly addressed to the presiding officer of the house to which the message be sent, and shall be signed by the person delivering the same in his official capacity, and such message, as written, shall be printed in full in the Journal of the house receiving the same.”

I certify that the above amendment to the joint rules of the two houses was adopted by both the Senate and the House—by the Senate on the fifteenth February and by the House on the eighteenth of February, 1887.

WM. NEAL RAMEY,
Secretary Senate.